

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : Unknown
Applicant : Kurt BURGER et al.
Filed : Unknown
TC/A.U. : Unknown
Examiner : Unknown

Docket No. : R.302585
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: Feb. 2, 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and be considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed within three months of the filing date and before the mailing of a first Office action.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form 1449 is as follows:

Appl. No. Unknown
IDS filed Feb. 2, 2005
Prior to first Office Action

DE 508 229

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

DE 502 510

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

DE 24 30 633

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

FR 1 448 689

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

JP 55-135077

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

JP 10-87041

This patent teaches a device for the transfer of cylindrical articles with a regulated transfer speed. Multiple rotary pieces (12) are held by bearings (14) at specific angles and spaced intervals. A cylindrical body W is loaded onto the rotary pieces (12). A rotary body (21) is in contact with the cylindrical body W. The driving force of a motor M is transmitted to the rotary body (21), and a torque is applied to the cylindrical body (W). Consequently, the cylindrical body (W) moves in the axial direction together with the rotation of the rotary pieces (12). Gears (32) are installed to the shafts (14b) of the bearing means (14). Racks (33) are engaged to the gears (32), and the contacting angle of the rotary pieces (12) to the cylindrical body (W) is changed by driving the racks (33). This enables regulation of the transferring speed of the cylindrical body W.

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JP 4-72209

This patent teaches a device that accurately detects the deflection of a longer material as is being fed through the device. The device also prevents non-uniformity in heating via a carrying roller in which multiple pairs of conical rollers are arranged with axial lines crossed at a specified angle. An axis intersects at a right angle with the axial line of the material on a plane surface in a feed device for the material in a continuously heating furnace. The whole of carrying rollers (3) carrying a longer material (1) is made up in such a way that a great number of paired conical rollers (4a) and (4b) butt against each other. The axial lines (6a) and (6b) of the paired conical rollers (4a) and (4b) are tilted at the angle of α in the horizontal direction to an axis intersected at a right angle with the axial line of the material (1). By this constitution, a cylindrical longer material is rotated in the circumferential direction by the carrying rollers (3) while being carried. This thereby enables curvature to be accurately detected by a single curvature sensor, and the non-uniformity in heating can thereby be prevented.

DE 33 30 019 A1

This patent teaches a device for the feeding, storage and holding of parts (T), which is flexible and suitable for receiving parts of a variety of shapes. The device comprises a chute (R), which conveys the parts (T) against an end stop (A) and whose sliding plane (G) consists of at least two torsion bars (D1, D2) which extend in the conveying direction. A lateral guide (SF) for the parts (T) is formed from at least one other torsion bar (D4) which extends in the conveying direction. Turning all the torsion bars (D1, D2, D4) completely removes the static

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friction of the parts (T) on the chute (R). In addition, the torsion bars (D1, D2) of the sliding plane (G) are driven in a direction of rotation (DR) in such a way that the parts (T) rest against the lateral guide (SF), thereby ensuring an exact removal position in front of the stop (A) as well.

JP 60-262710

This patent teaches a device for transferring uniform ampuls and other bottle-like articles. The articles are uniformly heated in a furnace and are horizontally supported therein. Specifically, an ampul (50) is transferred through the tunnel (4) of a sterilizing furnace (1) to be heat sterilized. A transfer device is constituted from a transfer screw (20) and a holding member for respectively receiving the shell (51) and the head (52) of the ampul (50), holding it horizontally. The screw (20) and member (30) are formed respectively with screw grooves (21, 31) which have opposite rotations (one clockwise and the other counter-clockwise). Also, the peripheral side face (11) of a guide bar (10) bears against the bottom face (53) of the ampul (50) to regulate the center of gravity of the ampul (50) so that the center is located on the axis of the transfer screw (20). Further, the guide bar (10) is rotated in the same direction as the screw (20) and the holding member (30) in the opposite direction to the screw (20).

GB 2 096 558 A

This patent teaches a device for transferring ampuls. Ampuls (5) are received in an upright position in the grooves of a conveying screw (4), being supported by a first guide (6). The first guide (6) is arranged so that the end at the delivery end of the screw (4) is higher than that at the feed end. This results in the ampuls being tilted over into a horizontal position

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as they are conveyed in the direction D. A second guide (7) engages the necks on the ampuls (5) when they are in the horizontal position. The ampuls (5) are transferred to and from the screw (4) by star wheels (not shown) having suction support recesses, the screw (4) and star wheels being synchronized.

DE 32 39 541 A1

This patent teaches a method and device for aligning vessels in which the supporting surface for the vessels which are to be aligned is sloped. The downward force of this slope urging the vessels towards a friction element causes the vessels to rotate until they reach a defined angular position. As a result of this, it is possible to ensure that even vessels with extremely non-round cross-sections can be aligned in a particularly gentle manner. The associated device comprises a conveyor belt (1) which is inclined transversely with respect to the running direction. Rail-shaped friction (9) and guiding (10) elements are arranged on the lower side for the vessels.

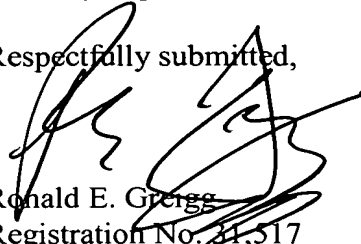
DE 25 58 041

No translation available. Cited to show the state of the art.

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Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

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Application Number

10/522950

Applicant(s)

Kurt BURGER et al

Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 FEB 2005

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		DE 508 229	10-15-1930	Germany				✓
		DE 502 510	07-16-1930	Germany				✓
		DE 24 30 633	01-15-1976	Germany				✓
		FR 1 448 689	08-05-1966	Germany				✓
		JP 55-135077	10-21-1980	Japan				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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							YES	NO
		JP 10-87041	04-07-1998	Japan				✓
		JP 4-72209	03-06-1992	Japan				✓
		DE 33 30 019 A1	02-28-1985	Germany				✓
		JP 60-262710	12-26-1985	Japan				✓
		GB 2 096 558 A	10-20-1982	United Kingdom			✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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							YES	NO
		DE 32 39 541 A1	04-26-1984	Germany				✓
		DE 25 58 041	06-30-1977	Germany				✓

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